



LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

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April 16, 2010

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT OVERTIME REPORT BACK**

This correspondence is in response to your Board's March 16, 2010, request for a bi-weekly status report on the Los Angeles County (County) Sheriff's Department's (Department) overtime curtailment efforts and its impact on Department operations.

The Department's overtime expenditures for the first reporting period, March 1, 2010, through March 15, 2010, totaled \$2,523,187. This figure represents a 48 percent reduction in overtime spending as compared to the same period in February 2010, and a 56 percent reduction over the half-monthly average experienced since the beginning of Fiscal Year (FY) 2009-10. The savings were the result of widespread overtime curtailment efforts including the creation of a Cadre of Administrative Reserve Personnel (CARP) who were assigned to fill line positions in lieu of paying overtime, the curtailment of some administrative functions, and prioritizing services.

The Department has experienced operational impacts as a result of these overtime reduction efforts. Impact examples include:

- Pitchess Detention Center North Facility (PDC-North) was downsized from housing an average daily inmate population of 1,383 in FY 2009-10 to housing a total of 4 inmate workers following the March 21, 2010, curtailment. The downsizing of PDC-North facilitated the redeployment of 179 employees within Custody Division to reduce overtime expenditures.
- Due to the downsizing of Custody Division, male non-violent offenders are currently serving approximately 50 percent of their jail sentences. These

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offenders were serving 80 percent of their sentences prior to the budget curtailments.

During the month of March 2010, Aero Bureau was unable to respond to 84 requests for air support from patrol units due to a lack of available funding, resulting from overtime curtailment.

Many of the employees who make-up the CARP are normally assigned to investigative positions. The time these investigators spend fulfilling their CARP duties is time lost investigating cases. As a result, investigations are taking longer to complete and detective units have experienced a rise in their number of open cases.

- The number of open cases assigned to station detective bureaus stood at 6,055 on February 28, 2010. That number had soared to 8,849 by March 31, 2010, a 46 percent increase.

It has been the practice of the Department's specialized detective units, such as Homicide Bureau, to follow the leads presented by their cases as they develop. Often this required the investigator to work beyond 40-hours per week. The curtailment of overtime spending has impacted the continuity of these types of investigations.

- On March 9, 2010, a homicide suspect agreed to take a polygraph test. The test was delayed until the following day due to overtime constraints. After the delay, the suspect refused to submit to the test.
- On March 25, 2010, Major Crimes Bureau, Surveillance Team I, was unable to assist Operation Safe Streets with the surveillance of a shooting suspect. The detectives had already reached their 40-hour limit for the week.

Many of the Department's administrative functions have a direct tie to public safety. For example, the Los Angeles Regional Crime Information System (LARCIS) is used by investigators and crime analysts to track crime trends and identify possible patterns or suspects.

- The County's hiring freeze and overtime reduction efforts resulted in too few clerks available to complete the timely entry of this critical data. On February 28, 2010, there were 1,010 crime reports whose data had not yet been entered into the system. As of March 31, 2010, that number had grown to 2,968, an increase of 194 percent.

The curtailment of cars in the field due to overtime reduction has begun to have an effect on the Department's response time to calls for service.

- The average response time to an emergency call for service in calendar year 2009, was 4.9 minutes. The average response time to emergency calls in March 2010, was 5.2 minutes. The increase was the most dramatic in the unincorporated County areas where emergency response times rose from 5.5 minutes to 6.4 minutes, a 16 percent increase.
- Response times to routine calls for service increased from an average of 39.6 minutes in 2009, to 44.8 minutes in March 2010, an increase of 13 percent.

We understand the necessity to cut \$128 million from our budget for the 16 month period, March 1, 2010, through June 30, 2011. We will continue our efforts to achieve this goal and do our best to minimize the impacts to the communities we serve.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Division Director Victor Rampulla, Administrative Services Division, at (323) 526-5357.

Sincerely,



LERROY D. BACA  
SHERIFF